

Valentine, Greg

From: Valentine, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2016 9:28 AM
To: tanya_sommer@fws.gov
Cc: Connor, Patrick; Darren LeBlanc
Subject: RE: City of Dripping Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility: Permit Nos. TX0136778 (EPA) and WQ0014488003 (TCEQ)

Ms. Sommer,

I wanted to follow up on the above reference draft permit ESA review you folks were doing. During our previous conversation you mentioned that a letter was being generated with concerns FWS had pertaining to the Barton Springs Salamander and the Austin Blind Salamander. Could you please provide me with an update as to when we might expect the letter?

Thanks for your assistance and Happy Holidays,

Greg Valentine
Environmental Scientist
NPDES Management Section
NPDES Permits & TMDLs Branch
Water Division

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From: Valentine, Greg
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2016 12:54 PM
To: 'tanya_sommer@fws.gov' <tanya_sommer@fws.gov>
Subject: City of Dripping Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility: Permit Nos. TX0136778 (EPA) and WQ0014488003 (TCEQ)

Ms. Sommer,

The above referenced draft permit should have been sent to your office for Endangered Species Act (ESA) review sometime around September 6, 2016 (I hope). The permit is high profile because a citizen's group, Protect Our Water (POW) is challenging the permit based on its discharge. Specifically, for discharging nutrients into a waterbody that is already impaired for sulfate (Segment No. 1427 (Onion Creek)) in Hays County, Texas. I am curious if you received this permit and more importantly if you reviewed it and found any issues due to this waterbody being home to the endangered species (Barton Springs Salamander and the Austin Blind Salamander).

Your immediate attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Greg Valentine
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